

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant(s):</b>	Hirokazu Nishimura, et al.	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	To be assigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	17044
<b>For:</b>	DIAGNOSTIC SUPPORT APPARATUS	<b>Dated:</b>	September 22, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,779,634, dated July 14, 1998, issued to Ema et al.;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,991,731, dated November 23, 1999, issued to Colon et al.;
3. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 10-14864, dated January 20, 1998;

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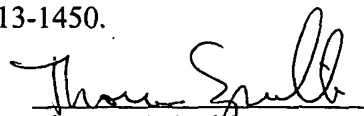
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: September 22, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli

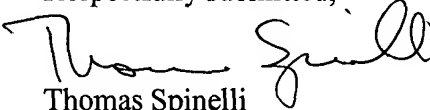
4. Japanese Application Publication No. 4-333972, dated November 20, 1992;
5. Japanese Application Publication No. 7-319674, dated December 8, 1995;  
and
6. Japanese Application Publication No. 8-322805, dated December 10, 1996.

Applicants are submitting copies references 3-6. References 1 and 2 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance reference 3 has been described in the specification.

References 4-6 was cited in an International Search Report dated January 14, 2003. Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of references 4-6 has been described in the Search Report.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) <b>17044</b>	Application Number <b>To be assigned</b>
	Applicant(s) <b>Hirokazu Nishimura, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>	Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,779,634	7/14/1998	Ema et al.			
		5,991,731	11/23/1999	Colon et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	10-14864	1/20/1998	Japan				✓
	4-333972	11/20/1992	Japan				✓
	7-319674	12/8/1995	Japan				✓
	8-322805	12/10/1996	Japan				✓

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.